

2016-17 Parent Involvement Policy for Shared Student Achievement

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<http://mes.pierce.k12.ga.us/>

Dr. Walker Todd, Principal

(912) 807-0084



What is a parent involvement policy?

This document is a plan that describes how **Midway Elementary School** will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. **MES** values the contributions and involvement of parents in order to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways **MES** will support parent engagement and how parents can help plan and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.

How is it developed? **MES** welcomes parent input and comments at any time regarding our plan to involve parents. All parent feedback will be considered for the revision of plans each year. Our plan is posted on our school website for parents to view and give input throughout the year. Parents can email suggestions to klydon@perce.k12.ga.us or send a copy of the online stakeholder feedback form to the school office. We also distribute an annual survey to all families to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parent involvement. During our MES Café meetings, parents are able to give feedback about our parent involvement activities, and to review and revise this parental involvement policy, as well as the school wide plan, our school-parent compact, the district family involvement plan, and the parental involvement budget for the upcoming school year.

Who is it for? All **MES** students and families are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. **MES** will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents with limited English, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children.

Where is it available? At the beginning of the year, the plan is included in the student handbook that is given to all students. Parents can request a copy of the plan at the front office or view a copy on the **MES** website.

What is Title I?

Pierce County Schools are identified as a Title I school district as part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). Title I is designed to support State and local school reform efforts tied to challenging State academic standards in order to reinforce and enhance efforts to improve teaching and learning for students. Title I programs must be based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support parental involvement. All Title I schools must work together with all parents to develop a written parental involvement policy.



2016-2017 District Goals

- ✓ High Academic Achievement
- ✓ Quality Teachers, Administrators, & Staff
- ✓ Supportive Learning Environment
- ✓ Effective, Efficient Operations
- ✓ Strong Parental & Community Support
- ✓ College & Career Readiness

School-Parent Compacts



As part of this plan, **MES** and our families will develop a school-parent compact. This compact is an agreement that parents, teachers and students will develop explaining how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all students reach grade-level standards. The compacts will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students and teachers during Parent Café meetings and the School Forum. The compacts are kept with each child’s teacher if parents need a copy. A copy of the compact is also posted on the school website.

Let's Get Together!

MES will host the following events to build the capacity for strong parental involvement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. Look for dates and times not listed below on Facebook, MES website, and grade level newsletters.



Pre-K Open House- Thursday, July 21, 2016

- ✓ We encourage all upcoming Pre-K parents to come to MES to meet teachers, tour the school, and learn everything you need to know to make your child's first day at MES successful.

Open House-Thursday, July 28, 2016

- ✓ Tour the school, visit the classrooms, and meet your child's teachers along with our helpful, friendly school staff.

MES Cafés

- ✓ Our **MES** Cafés will focus on what matters. Everyone's input, suggestions, and feedback is vital in addressing the needs and concerns of all stakeholders. During the **MES** Cafés, we will have authentic conversations to help build relationships and discuss ways to improve students' academic achievement, and our parent involvement activities. Also, the **MES** Cafés will provide opportunities for you to assist in revising elements of our Title I program plans, school-parent compact, and budget. Join us for meetings at either **8:00 a.m. or 2:45 p.m.** on the following dates:

Thursday, January 19, 2017

Tuesday, May 9, 2017

Curriculum Night-Thursday, August 25, 2016

- ✓ Spend an evening understanding what your child is learning and ask the questions you didn't realize you had during Open House.
- ✓ Learn how to monitor your child's progress: Infinite Campus Parent Portal, email alerts, and Remind for assignments

Mentor & Volunteer Training-Tuesday, August 30, 2016

- ✓ Receive training and pertinent information to prepare you to be the best volunteer and/or mentor you can be!
- ✓ Volunteers and Mentors can be trained throughout the school year by contacting the school office at (912)807-0084.

Lunch and Learn (Grades 3 and 4):

- ✓ Your voice has been heard. Due to an overwhelming response to our Title I Parent Involvement Surveys, we are offering Lunch and Learn activities for parents. If you work and have a short time for lunch, no problem. Families who RSVP will receive a crash course in CCGPS in specific content areas with a lunch to go.

Multiplication and Division- Wednesday, August 31, 2016

Racer Strategy- Thursday, September 8, 2016

Close Reading Strategy- Tuesday, October 18, 2016

Measurement and Geometry- Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Fractions- Wednesday, February 8, 2017

New Student/Parent Tours - Offered as needed when new students enroll at MES.

Learn helpful information to prepare for a successful school year at MES as a new student and parent

Annual Title I Parent Meeting- Thursday, September 29, 2016 at 12:00 p.m. or 5:30 p.m.

- ✓ We invite you to learn and receive information about our Title I program, our parent involvement and schoolwide plans, the school-parent compacts and parents' requirements. Invitations will be sent to all families and posted on the school website, in the school newsletter, and with the local media.

Science Fair Night-Thursday, September 29, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

- ✓ Enjoy this chance to appreciate the hard work and achievements of our 4th and 5th graders as they present their data and discoveries of their Science Fair projects. Project boards will be on display and awards will be given.

ESOL/Migrant District Meeting

- ✓ Come hear about the ESOL and Migrant programs offered to qualifying students.

Assessment Information Night- Thursday, January 26, 2017

- ✓ Learn about specific tests your student will take this school year and how they illustrate your student's academic progress.

Parent University Workshop

- ✓ Join us for a delicious lunch while gaining knowledge to support your child's educational success. Workshops are open to all Pierce County families! Invitations are sent to all parents and posted on the school websites. Lunch is sponsored by our community partners. All workshops begin at **12:00 noon**.

Date: 9/13/16

Location: Pierce County High

Topic: Graduation & Beyond

Date: 10/5/16

Location: Pierce County Middle

Topic: Understanding Assessments

Date: 11/10/16

Location: Blackshear Elementary

Topic: Math Strategies to Help your Child

Date: 2/1/17

Location: Midway Elementary

Topic: Technology Tips

Date: 3/8/17

Location: Patterson Elementary

Topic: Literacy & Reading Strategies

Shining Stars Assemblies-October 13, 2016, January 13, 2017, March 23, 2017, and May 19, 2017 during PE

- ✓ Award ceremonies to recognize students with outstanding achievements.

Wax Museum Night – Thursday, March 23, 2017

- ✓ Join us as history comes to life through augmented reality during our Wax Museum.

Kindergarten Transition Night- Thursday, March 30, 2017

- ✓ We encourage all upcoming kindergarten parents to come to MES to meet teachers, tour the school, and learn everything you need to know to make your child's first day at MES successful.

Moving to Middle School- Thursday, May 4, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

- ✓ Orientation for next year's 6th grade parents to discuss the transition from elementary to middle school. More information will be advertised on the PCMS website, Facebook page, and sent home with your child.
- ✓ Digital Footprint Discussion/Social Media Discussion

Parental Involvement

MES believes that parent involvement is the participation of parents in regular two-way and meaningful communication. This involves student academic learning and other school activities ensuring that...

1. Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
2. Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
3. Parents are partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child;
4. Other activities as described in this plan are carried out.

Family Resource Center



*Check out our **"Virtual"** Pierce County Family Resource Room on Pinterest for engaging resources to support your child's learning at home! Our **"Virtual"** resource room has valuable activities for Pre-K through 12th grades including instructional videos from Pierce County teachers! Visit it today at... www.pinterest.com/pcresourceroom/

Come visit our Family Resource area located in the MES Media Center. Items are available for check out from 7:20 a.m. until 3:10 p.m. Families may check out materials during scheduled teacher conference times afterschool. Computers are available for parents to check their student's grades on the Infinite Campus Parent Portal.

Parent Involvement Standards

MES and our parents have adopted the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships as the school's model in engaging parents, students, and the community. These standards are as follows:

- Welcoming All Families
- Communicating Effectively
- Supporting Student Success
- Speaking Up for Every Child
- Sharing Power
- Collaborating with Community



***MES** is committed to helping our parents attend the parental activities listed in this plan. Please call or email us if you need assistance with childcare or transportation in order to participate in our programs.*

912.807.0084 ~ ~ **Kim Lydon, MES**

Parent Involvement Coordinator

klydon@pierce.k12.ga.us

MES Supports Our Parents!

MES will take the following measures to promote and support parents as an important foundation of the school in order to strengthen the school and reach our school goals. We will...

- ✓ Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, social media and other activities is published in both English and Spanish (to the extent feasible), and posted on the school website and included in grade level newsletters for all parents.
- ✓ Conduct staff development on parent involvement practices and effective strategies for staff to improve communication with parents and ideas to increase family engagement.
- ✓ Partner with Head Start and local child care facilities to share school information about parent engagement activities that will help prepare parents and their student for kindergarten and improve school transition.
- ✓ Partner with Pierce County Middle School to share school information about parent engagement activities that will help prepare parents and their child for middle school and improve school transition.
- ✓ Share information in English and Spanish (to the extent feasible) on the school website and in the school newsletter for parents to understand the school's academic standards and assessments as well as the ways parents can monitor their child's progress and work with educators.
- ✓ Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding school wide events and activities, such as phone messages, social media, flyers and Remind.
- ✓ Work with our parents to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff and families on the importance of parental involvement. Listen and respond to parents' requests for additional support for students' academic needs.
- ✓ Provide necessary materials for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievement.
- ✓ Collaborate with community leaders and business groups to increase participation and awareness of the school parental involvement plan and activities.
- ✓ Use our MES Cafés to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parental involvement policy.
- ✓ Collect feedback from parents at school events, place input cards by suggestion box in the main lobby and post stakeholder feedback form on the school website in order to respond to parents' requests for additional support for parental involvement activities.

MES welcomes parent input and comments at any time regarding the following: **MES** & District Parental Involvement Plans, the District Consolidated Application (CLIP), the **MES** Schoolwide Plan, the School-Parent Compact, the District Needs Assessment, and the use of the required 1% of parental involvement funds.

MES Parent Café Meetings

MES invites all parents to join the MES Parent Café meetings to share ideas and ways to involve other parents to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The meetings will occur two times during the school year, but parents can also submit their ideas or suggestions during all activities and meetings as well as through our parent surveys, website and suggestion box. If you would like to learn more about the Parent Café, please contact Kim Lydon, School Counselor, at 912.807.0084 or complete the "Sign Me Up" form below.



Share Your Thoughts

We want to hear from you. If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of this plan that you feel is not satisfactory with the students' and the school's goals for academic achievement, please provide us with your comments in the space provided or leave your comments in the Suggestion Box located by the main office.



Please complete below and return to your child's teacher.

- Yes, I am interested and wish to join the MES Parent Café team.
- Please contact me so I can learn more about joining the MES Parent Café team.
- Please send me notifications about future meetings and updates.
- I would like to be involved in one of the following ways: (circle below)
 - Special Events
 - Mentoring a child
 - Volunteering to help with school pictures or Santa pictures
 - Fall festival
 - Field days
 - Grade level volunteer opportunities
 - Committees
 - School volunteer
 - Other: _____

Name: _____

Child's Name and Grade: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email address: _____